

What we claim is:

1. A web site design tool comprising:
  - 5 a plurality of design modules;
  - an interface enabling selection, by a user, of different ones of the design modules of the plurality to be included in a web site, the selected design modules forming a package of design modules; and
  - means for forwarding the package of design modules to a client web site server.
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2. The web site design tool of claim 1, wherein the plurality of design modules includes visual modules and functional modules.
3. The web site design tool of claim 1 wherein the interface is a graphical user interface.
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4. The web site design tool of claim 1, wherein the design modules include a navigation tree for indicating a relation of web pages in the web site.
5. The web site design tool of claim 1, wherein the design modules include administration modules for administering the web-site.
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6. A method for designing a web site for a client including the steps of
  - selecting a design module from a plurality of design modules at a graphic user interface; and
  - forwarding the design module to the client.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the design module is a graphical user interface.

8. The method of claim 6 wherein the design module is a functional module.

9. A method of building a web site at a client web site server including the steps of:

5 receiving, from a host web server, a plurality of design modules;  
building a directory structure for the plurality of design modules;  
building web pages for the web site in response to the directory structure, the step  
of building including linking content to the web pages.

10 10. A computer comprising:

a memory storing a plurality of web pages associated with a web site, the  
computer comprising a directory structure, identifying locations of modules that are used  
to provide functional and visual attributes for the web pages,  
content for display on the web site; and  
means for linking the content to the web pages.

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11. A method for updating a module at a client including the steps of:

receiving, at the client, a module having an identifier;  
determining whether the module is an existing module at the client;  
20 responsive to a determination that the module is an existing  
module at the client, comparing a version number of the existing module  
to a version number of the received module;

responsive to the version number of the received module exceeding the version number of the existing module, storing the received module in memory and updating a pointer in a data structure that points to the existing module to point to the received module.

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12. In a modular web design system wherein web sites are comprised of a plurality of linked modules, a method for updating one of the modules including the steps of:
- forwarding an updated version of one of the modules to a client using the one of the modules;
- storing, at the client, the updated version of the one of the modules;
- replacing, in a directory structure at the client, a first pointer to an existing version of the one of the modules with a second point to the updated version of the one of the modules.

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